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CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

Tau Beta Pi Association



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CONSTITUTION OF THE Tau Beta Pi Association

(Revised in Convention, November, 1908)

Preamble

To mark in a fitting manner those who have conferred honor upon their Alma Mater by a high grade of scholarship as undergraduates, or by their attainments as alumni; and to foster a spirit of liberal culture in the Engineering Schools of America; we do hereby ordain and enact the following

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

Name.	Motto.
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Section 1. The name of this organization shall be, The Tau Beta Pi Association.	
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Section 2. The motto,	
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T. B. P.

shall never be published, but with the other elements of secrecy shall be handed down traditionally.

ARTICLE II.

Organization of the Association.

Section 1. This Association shall consist of Chapters which have been, or shall be, established in Engineering Schools in America. The first Chapter in each state shall be designated by the Greek letter Alpha, the second by Beta and so on.

Section 2. The general government of the Association shall be vested in a Convention and in an Executive Council, as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE III.

Government of the Chapters.

Section 1. Subject to this Constitution and the By-laws of the Association, each Chapter shall have full control of its individual affairs; and may enact By-laws for its own guidance in all matters not herein set forth.

Section 2. The officers of each Chapter shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be active members; and an Advisory Board.

Section. 3. The Advisory Board shall consist of the first three officers above named: ex officio; and of four graduate members elected by the Chapter and resident alumni. In first organizing the Advisory Board of any Chapter, these four graduate

members shall be elected to serve for periods of one, two, three, and four years respectively; and thereafter one member shall be elected each year, to hold office for four years.

Section 4. The Advisory Board shall act as a judiciary committee, to determine the validity, under the Constitution, of any action, taken or proposed by the Chapter, which may be referred to it by a vote of the Chapter, or brought before it by a petition of a minority of the same. All changes in the By-laws must be submitted to it before going into effect. By a majority vote it may forbid any such action or change; subject to an appeal to the Convention.

ARTICLE IV.

Government of the Association.

Section 1. The Convention and Executive Council shall have control of all matters and affairs pertaining to the Association as a whole, but shall not interfere with the internal affairs of any Chapter unless such be brought before them for discipline, as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. The Convention shall meet annually, unless suspended as provided in Section 5. Each Chapter and each Advisory Board may be represented by one or more delegates, but shall have only one vote; and the Executive Council shall have

a representative, who may take part in the deliberations of the convention, but, as delegate of the Council, may not vote. Representatives of a majority of the Chapters shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. The convention shall elect its own officers and may adopt rules for the conduct of its business.

It shall elect the members of the Executive Council.

It shall levy such taxes upon the Chapters as will be necessary for its own support, and that of the Executive Council.

It may fix the time and place of meeting of the next regular Convention.

It shall be a final court of appeals in all questions of Constitutional interpretation and in all matters of discipline which may be referred to it.

It may amend the Constitution, subject to Article IX.

It may enact general By-laws for the Association. These By-laws shall define and regulate the following subjects:—

The transaction of business by the Executive Council.

The insignia and ritual of the Association.

The procedure in the establishment of new chapters—supplementary to Article VI.

And such other matters as may properly come within its jurisdiction, and are not herein set forth.

Section 4. The Executive Council shall

consist of three graduate members (besides the Secretary), no two being from the same Chapter, who shall serve for periods of three years, one being elected each year. It shall elect its own officers, who shall be President, Vice-President, and Treasurer.

These three men shall elect as Secretary of the Association, a fourth graduate member, who shall hold office at their discretion, shall be, ex-officio, a member of the Council, and shall act as Secretary thereof.

The Secretary of the Association shall be paid an annual salary, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Convention.

Section 5. The Executive Council shall organize under the By-laws, and shall have power to fill its own vacancies, subject to the approval of the succeeding Convention.

It shall have its headquarters with the Secretary of the Association.

It shall keep the official copy of the Constitution, the seal of the Association, and all the official documents belonging to the Association.

It shall collect and disburse through its treasurer, all taxes levied by the Convention.

It shall issue to the several Chapters certificates of membership for all newly elected members.

It shall publish all catalogues of the Association, and such other documents as may be ordered by the Convention.

It may call a special Convention for sufficient cause; and immediately upon the receipt of a written petition from a majority of the Chapters, it shall issue such a call, for a Convention to meet within two months of the date of the receipt of the petition. It may change the time and place of meeting of the regular Convention, and may suspend the meeting of the same for a period not exceeding one year, provided that the written consent of two-thirds of the Chapters be obtained to any postponement exceeding one month.

Section 6. Twenty per cent of all moneys received by the Treasurer of the Executive Council (excepting subscriptions to THE BENT) shall be set aside at the time of their receipt and shall be turned over, on or before the first day of the succeeding month, to the custody of three trustees, none of whom shall belong to the Executive Council, who shall be appointed by the Convention, and who shall hold office until relieved by the Convention. The trustees shall make annual reports to the Convention. This fund shall be invested from time to time in a safe and conservative manner by the trustees. No money shall be taken from the fund, unless by the termination of the trust as hereinafter provided, for any purpose whatever, until the value of the fund is ten thousand dollars. Then and thereafter two-thirds only of the income from the

fund may be applied to the expenses of the Executive Council, or shall be disbursed in such manner as the Council may direct. The remaining one-third of the income shall be added to the fund. The convention may change or amend the conditions of the trust, or may close the trust and discharge the trustees at any meeting by a vote of five-sixths of the total votes of the chapters comprising the Association.

ARTICLE V.

Membership.

Section 1. Membership in each Chapter shall be confined to students in the engineering courses of the institution in which the chapter is or may be established, who are recognized by the Faculty and Trustees as being in good and regular standing.

Section 1. Membership shall be open to all those male students in any class who, up to the beginning of the last year of their course, or as specified in Section 3, shall have maintained an average rank in scholarship in the first quarter of the class, with a general average grade of not less than seventy-five per cent., or the equivalent thereof. As a basis on which to determine the number of candidates for Tau Beta Pi, the class shall be considered to include only male students in the courses of which

members are eligible to the society; and the number in the class shall be as given by the official enrollment of those in actual attendance up to the end of the period for which the grade in scholarship is determined.

Section 3. The student who shall have the highest record at the close of the second year of the course, shall be eligible at the beginning of his Junior year; and in case this student does not return to college in his Junior year, the student second in rank shall be eligible. The remainder of those falling within the first eighth of the class shall be eligible at the beginning of the second term of the Junior year. Those falling within the first fourth shall be eligible at the beginning of the Senior year. But any student must have completed at least one year of work in the institution before becoming eligible.

Section 4. The election of members shall be by ballot, and shall be held within one month of the time when the candidates become eligible. No candidate shall be declared elected unless three-fourths of the votes cast are in the affirmative.

Section 5. Regular members are divided into two classes. All undergraduate members, and such resident graduates as shall notify the Recording Secretary of their desire to that effect, shall be active members. All other graduates shall be retired mem-

bers. Graduates or undergraduate members of one Chapter may be elected to membership in any other Chapter.

Individuals who have been elected to Graduate or Honorary membership in any Chapter, may, upon request of said Chapter, be initiated by any other Chapter. Such initiations must be authorized by the Executive Council.

Section 6. A Chapter may offer regular membership to alumni of the institution who graduated before the establishment of the Chapter, and who would have been eligible under Section 2 if the Chapter had existed prior to their graduation.

Section 7. Graduates of the institution in which the Chapter exists, or of similar institutions, distinguished by reason of attainments subsequent to graduation, and who may be thought worthy of membership, may be elected as honorary members, provided that such action shall not be taken sooner than six years after their graduation. All names proposed for honorary membership must first be submitted to the Advisory Board, and be approved by it before coming before the Chapter.

Individuals not graduates of any college, who may be distinguished by high attainments in the engineering profession and who may be in sympathy with the aims and objects of Tau Beta Pi, may be elected to honorary membership, subject to the ap-

proval of the Executive Council.

Section 8. Membership in any other society or association does not bar a candidate from election to Tau Beta Pi.

ARTICLE VI.

Establishment of Chapters.

Section 1. A petition for the establishment of a Chapter, and for a charter for the same, may be made by students or graduates of any Engineering School who are eligible under Section 2 of Article V. Such a petition shall be addressed to the Executive Council of the Tau Beta Pi Association. It shall set forth the desires of the petitioners, shall contain a certified statement of their eligibility under the Constitution, and shall pledge their willingness to subscribe to, and obey the Constitution and By-laws. It shall specify the part or parts of the institution in which the proposed Chapter is to exist, and shall be accompanied by an official statement describing the system employed in the institution for marking and grading the work of students.

Section 2. The Executive Council may, by a unanimous vote, either reject a petition or approve it. If the Council cannot reach a unanimous decision, it shall submit the petition to the next Convention. The petition, having been approved by the Council or by a majority vote of the Convention,

shall be referred to the Chapters for action, and shall be declared granted when three-fourths of the Chapters shall have acted favorably upon it, by a three-fourths vote of the total active membership of each.

Section 3. When a petition shall have received the required favorable action, the Executive Council shall notify the Association of this fact. It shall then prepare a Charter and an exact copy of the Constitution, and shall proceed in person, if possible, or appoint a deputation, to take these documents and install the petitioners according to the ceremonies of the Association.

Section 4. If the institution in which a Chapter is desired does not employ the system of marking and grading students by numerical percentages, then the petitioners may present, or the Executive Council, with their consent, draw up, a plan for determining the rank of students under the system in use, which plan must be equivalent in its requirements to Section 2 of Article V. This plan, having been sanctioned by the petitioners, shall be submitted to the Chapters with the petition, having the effect of an integral part of the same. Having been ratified as required in Section 3, this method of selecting candidates shall be binding upon the new Chapter, with the effect of a special by-law under Article V.

If the Chapter shall desire to amend this by-law, the proposed amendments must be

submitted to the Executive Council before going into effect. The Council shall decide whether the amended by-law is equivalent to the requirements of Article V. If the Council decide that it is not so equivalent, it shall notify the Chapter of this decision, and shall send to all the other Chapters copies of the by-law, with the proposed change; and the matter shall then lie over until the next Convention, which shall have power to decide what change will be permitted.

ARTICLE VII.

Meetings.

Section 1. Each Chapter may arrange meetings as it desires; but at least three meetings of a literary character shall be held each year by the undergraduate members.

ARTICLE VIII.

Discipline.

Section 1. The methods of discipline of members, recognized by this Association, are suspension and expulsion.

Section 2. If any Chapter shall be reported to the Convention by three-fourths of its graduate members, or by three other Chapters, in writing, as acting in a manner contrary to this Constitution and prejudicial to the interests of the Association, it may

be required to show cause why it should not be debarred from the enjoyment of its rights and privileges until the next Convention, and may be thus debarred if three-fourths of the other Chapters and Advisory Boards concur in the affirmative. And for due cause the charter of a Chapter may be annulled by the action of the Convention, such action being submitted to the Chapters, and in order to become effective requiring ratification equal to that for the granting of a new charter, as set forth in Section 2 of Article VI.

ARTICLE IX.

Amendment.

Section 1. Amendments to the Constitution must be presented to the Convention, and approved by three-fourths of the representatives present. They must then be submitted to the Chapters, and shall become effective when ratified by three-fourths of the Chapters, by a three-fourths vote of the active membership of each.

Section 2. Amendments to the By-laws of the Association may originate in the Convention or in the Executive Council. An amendment proposed at any Convention may be adopted by the same Convention by a vote equivalent to a majority of all the Chapters and Advisory Boards. An amendment

may be proposed in one Convention to lie over to the next meeting, or an amendment may be proposed by the Executive Council, and submitted to the Chapters in the call for the Convention: such amendments may be adopted by a majority vote of the Convention.

ARTICLE X.

Enactment.

Section 1. This Constitution, and the by-laws submitted herewith, shall go into effect when ratified as required in Article VII. of the Constitution of 1885.

The By-Laws

OF THE

Tau Beta Pi Association

(As amended in Convention, Nov. 1908.)

ARTICLE I.

The Convention.

Section 1. The Convention, being duly assembled, shall be called to order by the delegate from the Executive Council, or if there be none such present, by the senior delegate from the oldest Chapter represented. The temporary chairman shall appoint a secretary pro tem., who shall call the roll of the Chapters, and examine the credentials of delegates, present in person or by proxy: provided that no delegate shall be permitted to present proxies which would entitle him to more than two votes.

The secretary having reported a quorum to be present, the permanent officers, consisting of a president and a secretary, shall be elected by ballot. The President of the Convention shall at once appoint a committee on the conduct of business. The reading of the report of the Executive Council shall be first in order, after which the transaction of business shall be regulated by the report of the committee, duly adopted by the Convention.

Section 2. At the close of the Convention, its secretary shall send to each newly elected member of the Executive Council an official notification of his election, and the names and addresses of his colleagues and of the members of the retiring Council. He shall also send to the members of the retiring Council the names and addresses of the newly elected members.

The term of service of the officers of the executive council shall begin on the first day of the second calendar month following the date of their election.

The secretary shall also make out an official Report of the Proceedings of the Convention. This report, as also the notices of election to the members of the Executive Council, shall be signed by the President of the Convention and countersigned by the Secretary. Further, all such official documents of the Association shall be made on paper of the size 8½ by 11 inches.

The report of the Convention shall be promptly transmitted to the Secretary of the new Executive Council.

Secion 3. The traveling expenses, which shall include railroad and sleeping-car fares only, of one delegate from each Chapter to the national Convention, shall be met by a uniform per capita tax upon the active members of the Association, except the members of the Chapter with which the Convention meets.

Each Chapter shall file with the Secretary of the Council within two weeks after the convention, a statement signed by the President and Treasurer of the Chapter, giving an itemized account of the expenses of the delegate, and stating the number of active members in the chapter.

Each Chapter shall pay to or receive from the Treasurer of the Executive Council, within one month after the convention, the difference between the expenses of its delegate and its proportionate share of the total.

ARTICLE II.

The Executive Council.

Section 1. All business coming before the Executive Council may be transacted by correspondence.

To facilitate and regulate such conduct of business, the following rules shall be observed:

I. Any question may be brought before the Council for action by a written motion of one member, and any member may take the initiative in a question.

II. The maker of a motion shall write it out in the form of a resolution, and below shall write

“I move the above resolution,”

(Place, date.)

(Signature.)

This shall constitute an affirmative vote on the question

The resolution shall be sent to the other members in succession in such order that it will come to the President last, or be returned to him. In case all members shall have approved, the others by writing:

“I approve the above resolution,”

(Place, date.)

(Signature.)

the President shall over his signature, declare the resolution adopted, and send it to the Secretary for record.

III. In case any member does not approve he shall so signify, stating his objections or suggesting changes. These shall be concisely expressed and over his signature. Full explanations or arguments may be written on separate sheets and sent with the resolution.

Unless it shall appear to the President that the consensus of opinion is strongly against the substance of the motion—in

which case he shall declare it lost, and send it to the Secretary—he shall send it back to be re-cast and resubmitted. On this second submission of the resolution, the approval of the President, Vice-President and Treasurer shall be sufficient for its adoption.

IV. Under the conditions stated in Rule III, a third submission may be made, and a favorable vote of three out of the four shall constitute approval.

V. On all questions under instructions or directions from the Convention, the initiative shall rest with the President for one month after adjournment of the Convention. Thereafter it shall be open to all members.

VI. The failure of any member to transmit a resolution within two weeks from the time of his probable receipt of it—such failure having been established by communication between the other members—shall be equivalent to an affirmative vote on the resolution, and shall be entered by the President as such upon a new copy of the resolution sent out by the mover; unless the original copy, duly acted upon, shall be received before this action shall be completed.

Section 2. The Secretary of the Council shall send to each Chapter and to each of his colleagues on the Council, an account of the proceedings of the Convention, and a statement of the organization of the Council.

Each Chapter shall promptly send to the Council a list of the names and addresses of all newly elected officers; also, announcements of the initiation of new members, and of any case of discipline which will affect the standing of members upon the rolls of the Association.

Section 3. Each Chapter shall obtain from the Executive Council a certificate of membership for each new member received into the Chapter, and on each such certificate issued, the Council shall collect a fee of fifty cents over and above the cost of the same. The requisition for such certificates shall be made upon a regular printed form, to be supplied by the Council, which shall certify that the persons named therein, being duly qualified, have been elected members of the Chapter; and which shall be signed by the President and countersigned by the Recording Secretary of the Chapter.

Section 4. If an official communication shall have been addressed to a member of the Council by any other member: and if within one month after the time of his probable receipt of this communication he shall have failed to reply to it, or to forward it, then the other members may address to him a joint note, calling attention to the provisions of this Section: and on his failure to reply to this note within two weeks of the time of his probable receipt of it, the other members may, by joint action, de-

clare his place vacant and procede to elect a new member under the power of the Council to fill its own vacancies.

Section 5. Communications from the Council must be acted upon by the Chapters within one month, not counting regular college vacations, from the time of their receipt. Should any Chapter fail to report its action on such a communication within the specified time, such failure shall be construed as a vote in whatever way the Council shall see fit; and notification of this action shall be sent to the Chapter at once.

Section 6. The Executive Council shall make to each regular Convention a report containing the following items:

(a) A statement of the condition of the Association.

(b) The transactions of the Executive Council since the last Convention.

(c) All recommendations for the good of the Association which it may see fit to make.

(d) All subjects in dispute between Chapters.

(e) All Chapters subject to discipline.

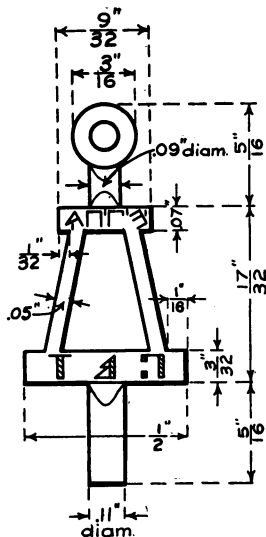
(f) All petitions for charters, which have not been otherwise disposed of as provided in the Constitution.

Section 7. Each Chapter shall send to the Treasurer of the Executive Council within thirty days after their initiation, a Council Tax of one dollar for each member initiated by said Chapter.

ARTICLE III.

Insignia.

Section 1. The badge of the Association shall be a watch-key of gold, shaped like the bent of a trestle. The body of the key shall be $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch thick; and it shall have the dimensions shown on the figure. On the obverse it shall have engraved upon it



the symbols shown in the figure; on the reverse, the cap of the bent shall bear the name of the Chapter, and on the sill shall be the name and class number of the owner.

Section 2. The colors of the Association shall be seal brown and white.

Section 3. The certificate of membership shall be as adopted by the Convention of 1897, and as shown below. For honorary members, the cause for election shall be stated in the certificate.

FORM OF CERTIFICATE.

TAU BETA PI.

Pennsylvania

CUT OF BADGE.

Alpha.

Be it known, That, havng maintained a rank in Scholarship in the first fourth of his class during his collegiate course at the **Lehigh University** and having been duly elected by the **Alpha** Chapter of **Pennsylvania**.

Name

Class No.

is hereby declared and certified a member of

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and is granted all the honors, insignia and privileges belonging that Association. In token of which are hereto set the signatures of the required officers and the seal of the Association. Given at **South Bethlehem**,

Pennsylvania, this second day of March, A. D. MDCCCXCVIII, and of the Association the thirteenth.

(Signed).

(Signed)

Prest. Executive Council.

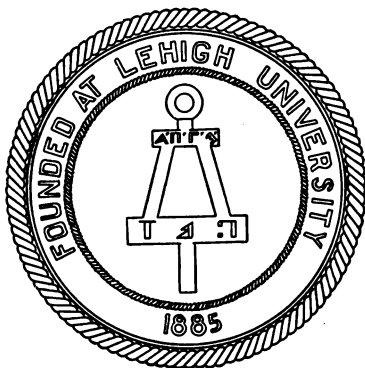
Prest. of the Chapter

SEAL

Secretary.

Words in Black Face type to be changed to suit
the Chapter; Etc.

Section 4. The seal of the Association shall be as shown in the figure below.





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